

Consumer **ALERT**



ATTORNEY GENERAL OF TEXAS
GREG ABBOTT

TSUNAMI RELIEF EFFORT: GIVE WISELY

The catastrophic earthquakes and tsunamis that have occurred in South Asia and East Africa have left tens of thousands of victims in desperate need of assistance. Texans are extremely generous in times of need, and while we have no reports of attempted charity scams relating to this disaster, we offer the following information to help you ensure that your gift goes where it will do the most good.

As you may know, President George W. Bush has designated former Presidents Bush and Clinton to encourage charitable giving by private parties. The two former presidents have asked Americans to donate directly to reliable charities already providing help to tsunami victims. A list of these organizations can be found at <http://www.usafreedomcorps.gov>.

Charitable efforts are also being announced through numerous media sources. If you have any questions about the quality or authenticity of a charitable effort, contact www.give.org for information. Give.org is a web site maintained by the Council of Better Business Bureaus to promote wise charitable giving. Also, remember to confirm the tax-exempt status of any organization to which you choose to make a donation.

I hope this information about charitable options is helpful to you in your individual response to the victims of this devastating natural disaster. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Greg Abbott,
Attorney General of Texas

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